

DTFH70-05-R-00002,
Going to the Sun Road Rehabilitation
Pre-Solicitation Conference Discussions
May 23, 2005
Western Federal Lands Highway Division
610 East Fifth Street
Vancouver, WA 98661

The following items were discussed at the conference. At the end of each presentation the floor was opened for comments and questions.

Presentation 1: Rehabilitation Overview

No questions or comments were received

Presentation 2: Mitigation/Transit/ITS

No questions or comments were received

Presentation 3: Contract Strategy

Question: Is it anticipated the project office is going to be open all winter?

Response: Yes, what we anticipate seeing in the project office or the field office is all the files should be in there, so if we need to come out and do an inspection of your cost controls and all your project paperwork, then those would be available at that project office site.

Question: The award fee, is that on a task order or the whole term of the contract?

Response: It's on a task order basis so a project basis, and each project will be its own task order. As we get into the contract, we could potentially determine we want to do an award fee on the remaining contract, but currently it's only envisioned on a project basis.

Question: The prime contractor managing a task order or traffic control task order, is the intent that they would be continuous, meaning concurrent?

Response: Yes. There would be two separate task orders. One for traffic and one for the project manager and the project office.

Presentation 4: Solicitation Overview

Question: In the solicitation, you indicated you wanted at least three prices from each subcontractor?

Response: Yes.

Question: In the solicitation, you indicated you wanted at least three prices from each subcontractor? Are you assuming then that as part of that team, you have three people on the team or can that vary? You've indicated in here that contractors feel free to submit more than one key subcontractor category that meets the qualifications to support competition in these areas.

Response: Right, and we're anticipating that if you submit three quotes from three subcontractors, that those three subcontractors are also being submitted to meet the evaluation criteria.

Question: The qualifications and those things have to be sent in on those three -- those three subcontractors before they can give you a quote?

Response: Correct.

Post Conference Note: The three subcontractor quote requirements are under further review and will be clarified/better defined prior to the issuance of the solicitation.

Question: What about the design?

Response: Originally we contemplated including design build in this project. However, because the use of Design Build requires anticipation of receiving at least 3 proposals, we can't include design build in this contract. However, we did include the ability to do a phased project. And a phased project would be, let's say, maybe 70 percent designed and because of the timing and sequencing maybe you, the contractor, can fit the next project into the schedule if you start it now. Well, now we have the ability to finish a phased project where you start working and finish up the final design work. But since design build isn't part of the criteria, evaluation of a design firm as one of the criteria was not included.

Question: Would they be listed as a subcontractor then?

Response: Not up front because we don't list that as one of the criteria for the key subcontractors. We anticipate that when a project comes up like that, where you need to have a design firm attached, then that would be part of the negotiation and part of the project request for proposal.

Question: What's the approximate dollar value of the first draft or the first proposal that you're going to use as price basis to determine who's going to be the contractor for 140 million dollars worth of work?

Response: Off the top of my head, I can't remember the estimate.

Post Conference Note: The magnitude of the first project was not identified in the draft solicitation. The current magnitude is \$1,000,000 to \$5,000,000.

Question: It doesn't seem to be too large a project. It's probably less than ten percent, maybe five percent of the total volume of the work that's going to be let. You're going to use that number to base award on the remaining 95 percent of dollar volume? I would hope that if that's the intent, that then the price number would only be five percent of the total evaluation that it's going to be. You're not looking at the total dollars.

Response: We don't have a percentage assigned to each criteria.

Comment: I realize that. It was just a concern.

Response: This project contains the work elements that are anticipated on the future projects. For sequencing and phasing into the rehabilitation effort, this project is the transition point.

Question: So if you bid it in July, do you anticipate any work this year or the next year?

Response: That will depend on a few different things. The quarry work, if it gets finished up and included, that work could potentially start this year. Otherwise, the first project is slated to begin construction next year.

Question: And the quarry work is off-site?

Response: Yes. Again, we don't know if that's going yet, just a few different things we have to complete.

Question: On the design portion of this, do you anticipate approximately 70 to 80 percent completion of the design work at each particular location?

Response: No, I was giving the percentages as an example. On a normal design build, 20 percent or less design is completed. We anticipate our projects having a higher percentage designed.

Question: You're not anticipating a requirement then to have a designer on the team at this point in time?

Response: Not for initial award of the IDIQ.

Question: And so if the quarrying does not take place, is the rock available?

Response: There will be some quarrying that's going to have to take place, it's a matter of when.

Question: What do you know about the existing pavement in the section that's there today, the depths of the asphalt, the depths of sub base?

Response: We've done a road evaluation, road inventory program on pavement. It's a public document. You may submit a request for this information through the special project web page or e-mail Michael Johnson with the request.

Question: Are you going to use metric or USC?

Response: We're going to do both. One job will be metric and then it looks like the rest of them are going to be English.

Question: Will it be fairly defined as far as the task order and the pricing on that July solicitation notice?

Response: Yes, it will have a specific bid schedule.

Question: So do you anticipate the design will be 100 percent complete when this task order comes out with those items?

Response: Yes.

Question: Will there be a site visit or anything like that?

Response: No. The road is open for travel and the documents provided with the solicitation indicate the location. If the Government places signs identifying the project limits, the solicitation will indicate it.

Question: If you announce it in July, how long will you give us for the proposal?

Response: A minimum of 45 days until the technical proposal and the pricing is due. Once the evaluation criteria is established, the information will be issued to allow extra time for preparation.

Question: The minimum and maximum. The front part of the document indicated that the minimum would be a million and it's \$25,000 later on.

Response: The document is being corrected to indicate the \$1 million minimum.

Question: What do you anticipate are going to be the key subcontractors' categories that you're going to want as part of your solicitation overview?

Response: What was issued with the draft solicitation are the current categories under consideration. They may change between now and the time the solicitation is issued.